

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition for inhibiting glutamate-mediated neurotoxicity comprising a ginsenoside selected from a group consisting of 20(S)-ginsenoside Rg₃, 20(S)-ginsenoside Rh₂ and mixture of 20(S)-ginsenoside Rg₃ and 20(S)-ginsenoside Rh₂.
2. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the ginsenoside is 20(S)-ginsenoside Rh₂.
3. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the ginsenoside is the mixture of 20(S)-ginsenoside Rg₃ and 20(S)-ginsenoside Rh₂.
4. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the composition is used for treating cerebral diseases selected from a group consisting of cerebral trauma, cerebral apoplexy, cerebral hemorrhage, paralysis, epilepsy, Alzheimer's disease or Huntington's disease.